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REPORT

CD NO.

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 28 August 1952

SUBJECT Voroshilov Plants, Dubnica nad Vahom:
Reported Explosion

NO. OF PAGES 3

DATE OF INFO.

NO. OF ENCLS. 1 (map sketch)
(LISTED BELOW)

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PLACE
ACQUIRED

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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workers [] had been badly burned as the result of an explosion which was reported to have occurred in an ammunition plant in Dubnica /4858N - 1811E/ on 3 April 1952. []

Dr Simon Omanik, chief of surgery at the Trencin hospital, [redacted] approximately 200 persons had been severely burned in this explosion. Also present was a Dr (fnu) Demjen, a specialist in plastic surgery and professor at the Bratislava hospital who was there to treat some of the workers.






the plant employed about 5,000 people, 25 per cent of whom were women.

3. Of the 200 reportedly burned in the explosion, Trencin hospital received about 30 cases; the remaining 170 were sent to the towns of Zilina and Piestany. Of the 30 cases received at the Trencin hospital, ten died as a result of third degree burns.

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4.

[redacted] the accident had been the result of gunpowder exploding.

An ammunition expert named Karol Dobrovolsky, who was responsible for safety measures in the plant, told [redacted] that the explosion had been caused by a highly inflammable chemical, nitro-toluol-benzol, coming in contact with air; Dobrovolsky said that this had occurred because the main door of the plant had been left open. [redacted] the impact of the explosion had been felt in Trencin.

5.

The cases [redacted] treated showed no signs of having been in an explosion. Usually persons who have been in an explosion suffer body injuries after having been thrown against a wall or other solid objects. [redacted] no such injuries in the cases [redacted] treated [redacted] more inclined to believe that the accident was a fire and not an explosion, probably due to carelessness and not sabotage.

6.

[redacted] Dr Wiener, [redacted] to keep quiet about the explosion; in case [redacted] questioned about the injured people, [redacted] say that 200 persons had been injured as a result of the explosion, but that none had died. [redacted] there were many more injured but for security reasons, the plant only announced that there had been 200.

7.

[redacted] the following personalities [redacted] were connected with treating the injured at the plant.

(a) Dr Simon Omanik, chief of surgery at Trencin hospital [redacted]

(b) Dr Tibor Resko was director of the Trnava hospital. [redacted]

(c) Dr Heinrich Wiener was a gynecologist and director of the Trencin Hospital. [redacted]

(d) Dr (fnu) Urbanik was a genito-urinary specialist at Trnava Hospital.

(e) Dr (fnu) Demjen was a professor at the Bratislava hospital and a specialist in plastic surgery.

8.

The ammunition plant was located approximately 16 km northeast of Trencin on the Bratislava-Zilina road. It had been used by the Germans during World War II as an ammunition plant and had been bombed by US planes in August 1944. Formerly known as the Dubnica Savody Plant, the name was changed to Vorosilova Savody after the Communists took over in 1948. It was common knowledge in the vicinity of Dubnica that the plant was producing light artillery ammunition [redacted]

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9. [redacted] the building was about 500 m long,
25X1 300 m wide and eight m high. There were also some wooden barracks
25X1 which [redacted] were billets for plant workers; they were located
25X1 directly opposite the plant on the Bratislava-Zilina road.
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1. [redacted] Comment: Ordinarily known as Dubnica nad Vahom.

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Enclosure (A): Ammunition Factory in Dubnica /4858N-1811E/

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ENCLOSURE (A)

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